

## "VERY STRANGE BEDFELLOWS"

*In politics "birds of a feather flock together"*

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**T**HERE IS AN old political adage which states that politics makes strange bed-fellows, but nothing could be further from the truth: political activity is actually a great clarifier of relationships—especially in a presidential campaign year. Like birds of a feather that flock together, a man is known by the company he keeps.

No matter how much they may protest otherwise, presidential candidates must accept responsibility for the backgrounds of those who endorse them. Silent acceptance of political support means tacit approval. Presidential candidates who do not approve of the backgrounds of the political big-wigs who endorse them can always repudiate such endorsements. To do otherwise would be to court political suicide.

Despite the fervent belief — blindly clung to by the Democratic National Committee and the Americans for Democratic

Action (ADA) — that the Roosevelt name is political magic, the fact remains that it is anathema to a very large group of American voters. And the antics of the Roosevelt clan at the present time may soon turn Lady Eleanor's beaming endorsement into a political "kiss of death" as fatal as the personal attentions of Lady Macbeth.

Almost no other prominent political figure in American public life today can boast of as many Communist-front activities as Eleanor Roosevelt.

Certain peculiar activities of Mrs. Roosevelt deserve a great deal more publicity than they have heretofore received. Time after time, she has gone out of her way to endorse or to give assistance to individuals who have served Communist causes. Take her endorsement of Alger Hiss, in her column of August 16, 1948: "Smearing good people like Alger Hiss and Launch-